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Australia,* Barbados, Benin, Indonesia, Italy,* Kenya,* Mexico, Myanmar,* Norway,* Republic of Korea,* Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2005/47 of 27 July 2005,

Welcoming the report of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS),[1] and appreciating the concerted efforts of the UNAIDS secretariat and its co-sponsoring agencies in fighting HIV/AIDS,

Recalling the goals and targets set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[2] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session in 2001, the 2005 World Summit Outcome[3] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS,[4] adopted by the high-level meeting of the General Assembly in 2006, as well as the HIV/AIDS-related goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000,[5]

Recognizing that HIV/AIDS constitutes a global emergency and poses one of the most formidable challenges to the development, progress and stability of our respective societies and the world at large and that it requires an exceptional and comprehensive global response,

Expressing serious concern about the continued global spread of HIV/AIDS, which exacerbates poverty and poses a major public health challenge and a threat to economic and social development and to food security in heavily affected regions,

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] E/2007/56.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-26/2.

[3] General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[4] General Assembly resolution 60/262, annex.

[5] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

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Acknowledging the need to close the gap between available resources, both technical and financial, and the resources necessary to combat HIV/AIDS,

Remaining deeply concerned by the overall expansion and feminization of the pandemic and by the fact that women now represent 50 per cent of people living with HIV worldwide and nearly 60 per cent of people living with HIV in Africa, and in this regard recognizing that gender inequalities and all forms of violence against women and girls increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS,

Reaffirming the importance of global coordination efforts to scale up sustainable, intensified and comprehensive HIV/AIDS responses in a comprehensive and inclusive partnership, as listed in the Political Declaration, with people living with HIV, vulnerable groups, most affected communities, civil society and the private sector, within the framework of the "Three Ones" principle,

1. *Urges* UNAIDS and the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to intensify their support to Governments, with a view to achieving the goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] and the goals and targets contained in the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[2] the 2005 World Summit Outcome[3] and the 2006 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS;[4]

2. *Encourages* Governments to provide full support to the reporting process of the 2001 Declaration of Commitment and the 2006 Political Declaration, in particular in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the implementation of commitments made in the above-mentioned instruments, and to participate in its high-level plenary meetings;

3. *Commends* UNAIDS for the steps it has taken to support countries in moving towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support and for the adoption of its 2007-2010 strategic framework, endorsed by the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board at its nineteenth meeting, as the principal guide to global, regional and country-level planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of progress of UNAIDS support to countries' efforts to move towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010;

4. *Reaffirms* the key role of UNAIDS in supporting national processes that include civil society in a meaningful way, especially key populations and in validating ambitious and comprehensive targets and incorporating them into costed national plans by the end of 2007, as decided by the Programme Coordinating Board at its twentieth meeting, and encourages all countries that have not yet done so to set national targets towards universal access;

5. *Recalls* the commitments made in the 2006 Political Declaration to reduce the global HIV/AIDS resource gaps through greater domestic and international funding in order to enable countries to have access to predictable and sustainable financial resources, and urges all Governments, bilateral and multilateral donors and private donors to fully fund the UNAIDS unified budget and workplan for 2008-2009, in accordance with the principle of burden-sharing;

6. *Welcomes* the decision of the Programme Coordinating Board at its twentieth meeting, building on extensive consultations, to review and strengthen its

own procedures and to improve coordination of the global HIV/AIDS response by UNAIDS;

7. *Encourages* the fulfilment of the commitment to strengthen the United Nations response to AIDS at the country level, the UNAIDS technical support division of labour and the concept of a joint United Nations team and programme on AIDS, with the aim of harmonizing technical support, strengthening programmatic coherence and improving collective accountability of the United Nations system at the country level, and also encourages UNAIDS to fully participate in the process of the reform of the United Nations on operational activities within the framework of its role as the coordinator for responses to HIV/AIDS;

8. *Welcomes* the improved collaboration between UNAIDS and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the decision taken by the Programme Coordinating Board at its twentieth meeting to review the existing memorandum of understanding between UNAIDS and the Global Fund;

9. *Encourages* intensified advocacy and concrete implementation by UNAIDS in order to ensure that the underlying obstacles to the goal of universal access are addressed at all levels and a sense of awareness is developed that HIV/AIDS should be viewed from its multisectoral, including socio-economic, dimensions;

10. *Acknowledges* the need to address the underlying obstacles to the goal of universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support, including the gap in technical and financial resources available, as well as inadequate health infrastructure, which is necessary to ensure an effective and successful response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

11. *Urges* Governments, donors and UNAIDS to significantly expand efforts to address inequality and inequity between men and women, gender-based violence, including sexual and physical abuse of women, girls and boys, harmful gender-based practices and social and cultural norms, stigma, discrimination, deficiencies in sexual and reproductive health and lack of respect for human rights as major factors that heighten vulnerability to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, including through increased and better coordinated funding to national programmes and civil society partners;

12. *Requests* UNAIDS to further develop and finalize its draft guidelines on gender in consultation with Governments, donors, the United Nations system, global HIV initiatives, civil society and all relevant stakeholders, focusing on concrete actions to achieve gender equality and equity in national HIV/AIDS responses;

13. *Emphasizes* that the prevention of HIV infection must be the mainstay of national, regional and international responses to the pandemic and the importance of prevention for vulnerable groups, such as injecting drug users, in the response to HIV/AIDS, commends UNAIDS for its role in "uniting for HIV prevention" and supports the drive for more operational and specific targets for prevention at the national level in the move towards universal access, as iterated by the Executive Director of UNAIDS at the nineteenth meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board;

14. *Encourages* the efforts towards harmonization, alignment, national leadership and ownership and "making the money work"[6] between and among development partners, as led by the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors, and supports the continued building on the "Three Ones" principle as the framework for the response to HIV/AIDS at the country level;

15. *Urges* Governments, donors and other stakeholders, including UNAIDS, to promote coherence in support to and alignment with national HIV/AIDS response strategies in a transparent, accountable and effective manner within the framework of the "Three Ones" principle;

16. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Programme Coordinating Board to carry out an external evaluation of UNAIDS, and calls for a critical, constructive, inclusive and transparent evaluation;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2009, a report prepared by the Executive Director of UNAIDS, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, which should include information on progress made in implementing the coordinated response of the United Nations system to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, the outcome of the aforementioned external evaluation of UNAIDS and the independent assessment to review and assess the sustainability of HIV/AIDS financing.

[6] "Making the money work" means working actively to implement the "Three Ones" principle in all countries.